

**REMARKS**

The Office Action mailed August 12, 2004 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-11 remain pending in this case, with claims 1 and 6 being the independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

The specification stands objected to for reciting "S\_SF" instead of "S\_FS". Applicants wish to thank examiner to noting this informalities. In response, the specification has been amended to recite "S\_FS". Accordingly, withdraw of objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,661,946 to Takahashi et al. ("Takahashi").

Claim 1, in part, recites:

a channel selector for generating a **channel select signal for identifying said at least one channel** of the multiple channels in said system, and . . .

a plurality of **mixers** for **selectively releasing and transmitting** said input digital signal modulated by said one of said two different modulation standards and said converted input digital signal to the other one of said two different modulation standards by said codec means **in response to said channel select signal.**"

Takahashi, as read by applicant, teaches a digital switch module having an encoding law conversion memory and a control memory, in which the control memory designates which of the regions in the encoding law conversion memory is to be used during each time slot, thus dynamically controlling whether data passing through the digital switch module is converted or not as digitalized voice signals may require conversion but non-voice signals may not.

It is respectfully submitted that no where in Takahashi teaches, anticipated, or render obvious the invention as recited in claim 1. In particular, Takahashi fails to show how “mixer” performs “selectively releasing and transmitting” of “said input digital signal modulated by said one of said two different modulation standards and said converted input digital signal to the other one of said two different modulation standards by said codec means” occurs “in response to said channel select signal.”

The examiner is wrongly equate the mixers in the present invention with the encoding law conversion memory 24. The function of the mixers in the present invention is to operate in response to a mixing control signal for storing the digital signal that are output without any conversion operated thereon by the codec 210 (page 11, lines 16-20). Hence, the mixer is used in conjunction with the codec 210 to selectively convert specified channels. In contrast, the memory 24 of Takahashi performs the actual encoding law conversion between the A-law and the u-law trunks, so that voice signal

and non-voice signals can be converted selectively. Accordingly, the applicant can find no support for such a proposition no matter how the Takahashi reference is construed. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 6 recites the same above-quoted limitations, and is likewise deemed to be patentable over Takahashi. As to the other claims, each depends from a base claim and is deemed to be patentable over the cited references at least due to its dependency, although each warrants further consideration based on its additional, individual merits.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned in the event of any perceived outstanding issues so that passage of the case to issue can be effected without the need for a further Office Action.


Amendment  
Serial No. 09/350,436

Docket No. 5000-1-004

In the event that any additional fee is required to continue the prosecution of this Application as requested, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 502-470.

Respectfully submitted,

CHA & REITER

  
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Date: November 8, 2004

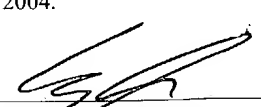
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